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June 1947

Consumers' guide



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Our Growing Appetite

How's your appetite? You should certainly say "fine" if you are one of the 130 million or more consumers in this country. Last year our food consumption level was 16 percent above prewar. And the important point is that our collective appetite is even greater than indicated by this bulge in the consumption of farm products.

Secretary Anderson recently pointed this out as a significant factor in the establishment of a long-range farm program. A balanced farm program must consider, first, how much food and fiber we need or can reasonably expect to consume, and second, what those needs mean in farm acreage and types of farming, and third, what programs may be needed to help maintain the balance between consumer requirements for commodities and production.

He said that no matter how he looked at the question of how much food we need that each time he came to the conclusion that we need more than we have ever had. From a nutritional standpoint it's clear that many more people need more food in order to have an adequate diet. The fact that many needed more food than they were getting before the war was pointed up by the increase in food consumption which accompanied the higher buying power of the public during the war.

The measurable wants of the people in this country is what they really want to buy. This is brought out by what people

of comparatively good incomes consume in the way of food. Back in 1941, under prices of that time, the families who had \$2,000 a year income—that's less than \$40 a week per family—could afford a generally adequate diet. Those families constituted approximately the top 40 percent of the population. If we assume that their buying habits represent what all the people of the United States want and apply their buying habits to the whole population, the Secretary stated that:

"People want about 40 pounds more meat per capita than they were getting between 1937-41; they want 200 pounds apiece more milk, about 9 pounds more chicken, 23 or 24 pounds more fresh vegetables, around 17 pounds more processed vegetables, an additional 50 pounds of citrus fruit, and over 80 pounds more of other fruits.

"Judging what the whole population wants by the actual food buying habits of persons in the upper 40 percent of our prewar income groups, our people would like to be able to buy a third more food than they had on the average in the 5 prewar years 1935-39. Last year our food consumption level was already 16 percent above prewar. So, as a result of increased consumer income and increased farm production we have gone about halfway toward supplying people's wants that were not being satisfied in the prewar years. We are doing it during a world food emergency

which has necessitated great exports of grain and some other commodities.

"As consumers earned more money and as dairymen stepped up milk production, people began drinking much more milk than ever before—from a fourth to a third more. They also showed they wanted more and more meat. In 1944 we ate about 23 pounds more meat per capita than in prewar years, and this year we may make the difference 25 to 30 pounds—at least a fifth more than prewar. As for eggs, many people assumed that wartime production was far beyond any conceivable peacetime demand. When we compared our per capita consumption of 392 eggs in 1945 with the prewar average of 298, much of the difference was ascribed to the meat shortage. But last year, we ate about 380 eggs per capita, even though we had 15 percent more meat than before the war. And although estimates at the beginning of this year indicated a drop to 360, we ate eggs at a record rate in the first quarter of the year. We ate more than 100 eggs apiece, on the average, during that quarter.

"When people who haven't had the food they wanted get better incomes, they buy more food and they also buy the more expensive foods."

These wants of our people can be fulfilled by our farms. If they were fulfilled it would mean that we would need more than the 420 million acreage of farm crops, orchards, rotation pastures and fallow land.

"That is about our production goal for this year and it's around 10 million acres higher than the figure for last year or for 1937-41 average," Secretary Anderson reported. "It's the continuing acreage we would need if people of reasonable income could buy what they have shown they want."

When we continue to keep income, need for food, and consumption of food in line we work toward better living for both farmer and consumer.

The Editor

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Let's take to the woods

for a real outdoor vacation at low cost amid the beauties of our own forests.

• For your vacation this summer why not take to the woods? Not just any woods—but some of your own woods. You are part owner, you know, of about 179 million acres of woods. They are called National Forests and the Forest Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture is taking care of them for you.

These National Forests are scattered over 42 States, Puerto Rico and Alaska. You can get to one of them from practically any locality in the Nation in a few hours, or at most a day's driving.

So if vacation means woods to you, look around you now and pick yourself a forest for summer use. You can have almost any kind of vacation you want in it—except a luxurious one. No fancy hotels and

trick summer cottages for rent in the forest. No golf courses or tennis courts.

But there's hiking and mountain climbing, motoring and even bicycling, over 329,000 miles of roads and trails; swimming and boating in 70,000 miles of streams and in thousands of ponds and lakes; fishing in tumbling mountain streams and clear, still lakes; and "camera hunting" everywhere.

The forests are a photographer's paradise. Everything is photogenic, from cumulus clouds and mountain peaks to rare wild flowers and tiny animals. And always there's the pale green twilight of the woods to walk through, with the slickness of pine needles under the soles of your comfortable old shoes. There's

woods-scented air to breathe, and the unending surge of wind in the treetops to hear. Best of all, in many camps there's the sight of blue and gray and purple mountains rising fold on fold to lean against the pale horizon.

You won't find these items listed in the camp information circulars so let's take a more formal inventory of the accommodations and diversions the forests offer.

• Recreation Areas

You mustn't get the impression that the whole 179 million acres mentioned in paragraph one are there for you to tramp over, burn up and get lost in without any civilizing modifications. For your own sake, as well as the forest's, "recreation

areas" have been built in nearly every National Forest. In all about 100,000 acres are given over to these recreation areas. You don't *have* to use them, but the Forest Service hopes you will.

They vary from simple picnic grounds to hundreds of acres in which tent camp sites, organization camps and summer homes are almost concealed from each other on the wooded mountain slopes. All of the areas provide as a minimum: safe drinking water, fireplaces and fire wood, tables and benches and sanitary facilities. If that sounds too much like the picnic grounds in any city park to be inviting, remember you don't *have* to use it.

If you pine for the rugged life and feel that you must play Daniel Boone or it won't be a vacation, you are free to go to some remote spot and pitch your tent. There you'll be on your own, and take your chance with the drinking water, poison ivy, insects and wild animals far away from the Ranger's watchful eye. It's your forest you know. However, for the sake of the other owners the Forest Service forbids making fires in certain places during certain seasons, and begs you to be a good camper. That means care with your fire and rubbish, and no destruction of growing things.

Before you decide on the unmodified wilds you must hear about the camp sites in recreation areas.

Sherando Lake

The 500-acre Sherando Lake Forest Campground in the George Washington National Forest, Va., for instance, has sites for 24 tents. Tucked away in the woods on high ground, they are entirely away from the picnic area, but not too far from the lake to run down for a swim. The sites are so spaced that the occupant can set his tent up in privacy from both the little forest road where his car is parked in a spur near the tent, and from his tenting neighbors.

A fireplace and table are all ready for housekeeping—or should I say tent-keeping—in the cleared space back of the tent. A water spigot and firewood are not far away. Incidentally, campers must not forget to bring a small axe or hatchet. The wood is not cut in short lengths. Nothing so civilized. The full-sized branches, just as they were trimmed from the trees are stacked in tepee shapes at various spots convenient to the group.

The hardy camper must drag a branch home and chop it up.

Incidentally the Forest Service has provided 20,000 individual family-size camp sites of this type in some 3,600 public camp grounds in the various national forests.

For trailer parking there is a big open field with water spigots and a few fireplaces. At Sherando as at all forest camps there is no charge for any of this. It's a matter of first come first served, but the Ranger said calmly, they never seemed to have any trouble. The picnic area at Sherando is extensive. The beautiful 22-acre mountain lake has a real sand beach. There are bathhouses, 2 picnic shelters and parking space for 300 cars, as well as the usual tables and fireplaces.

Organization Camps

The Sherando Recreation Area has one of the 54 organizations camps built by the Forest Service and rented to groups at a nominal charge. It is at some distance from the other activities of the area, has its own water supply and playing fields. There is a big mess hall and administration building, an ice house, a wash shed, and 3 bunk houses, all beautifully spaced on a hillside. In all the national forest organization camps priority is given to vacations for underprivileged children.

Sherando is probably typical of the use made of these camps. Of the 3 months it is open one month is taken by underprivileged children from nearby Waynesboro, one month by a church group, and one by a garden club. Your regional forester can tell you about availability of organization camps in your area.

There are 320 privately constructed organization camps on Forest Service land.



The fee for the use of the land is nominal in the case of nonprofit groups.

Summer Homes in National Forest

Many of the forests have zoned areas for private homes. Lots are available at from \$15 to \$25 a year. House plans must be approved by the Forest supervisor. There are more than 13,000 summer homes in the national forests at present—most of them in the western forests. Summer homes are only permitted on areas not needed or not suitable for public uses.

But let's get back to your vacation this summer. You can't build a summer home or lease an organization camp this season, so it must be a tent for you, unless you can find a place to live on the edge of the forest. Frequently there are tourist homes, cabin camps, ranches, or hotels accessible to the forest.

Sometimes, too, the Forest Service permits private capital to construct, under their direction, hotels or cabin camps where they are needed for service to the public. The Forest Service regulates the type of development, the character of services furnished, and the charges. At many resorts in the national forests simple but clean and adequate accommodations are available at about what you'd pay at an average small town hotel. Higher type accommodations and those giving special services, such as saddle horses, naturally cost more.

Most forest visitors are definitely interested in low-cost vacations. In 1937, 25,000 visitors, heads of families or individuals, filled out questionnaires which showed that only 3 percent had over \$5,000 yearly income, while 67 percent had less than \$2,000 a year.

Work Done by CCC Boys

Many things in the forests are monuments to the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Works Progress Administration. They built thousands of miles of forest roads and trails. These are happily used by the vacationists, but their real function is to enable the foresters to get at fires, and to carry on the various other activities connected with forest products. Technically they are "access roads." CCC and WPA boys built the check dams in streams for better fishing, and the larger dams for artificial lakes and swimming pools. They built the thousands of fireplaces and benches and shelters in recreation areas all over the country. And they set out

millions of seedling trees on barren slopes.

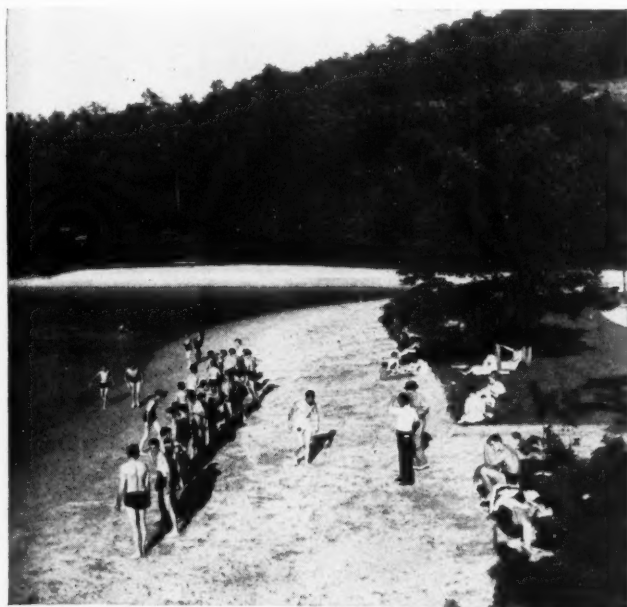
For you must remember that your forests have more business than supplying a place for vacations, important as that is. Their primary objective has always been to protect watersheds and to prevent erosion. They harbor one-third of all our big game. Billions of feet of timber are cut in the forests every year under timber sales contracts. This helps to fill national needs

for lumber and pulp, local needs for fence posts, fuel wood, telephone poles, etc.

The Forest Service fire lookouts watch for smoke over the national forests and over millions of privately owned acres that adjoin the forests or are enclosed by it. Perhaps on your vacation you'll have a chance to climb up to one of those lookout towers. And in that tiny crow's nest above an endless rolling green ocean of

cloud-flecked treetops, you'll get an inkling of how great your forests are, and how skilled and devoted are the people who care for them for you.

For information about national forests near you write to the nearest Forest Supervisor. If you do not know who that is, write to Consumers' Guide or to Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.



At Sherando Lake, George Washington National Forest, Va., Boy Scouts demonstrate some of the recreation uses of the forests.



Health-giving fun in the forests for all types and ages. Here is a Kiwanis picnic at a campground in Cache National Forest, Utah.



"Canoe tourists" stop at one of the camps provided for them on an island in Lac La Croix, Superior National Forest, Minn.

June 1947



Here a group of children enjoy the woods at Powell's Fort organization camp in George Washington National Forest, Va.

Clothing review . . .

Extension clothing specialists take inventory of latest clothing developments on behalf of rural women they serve.

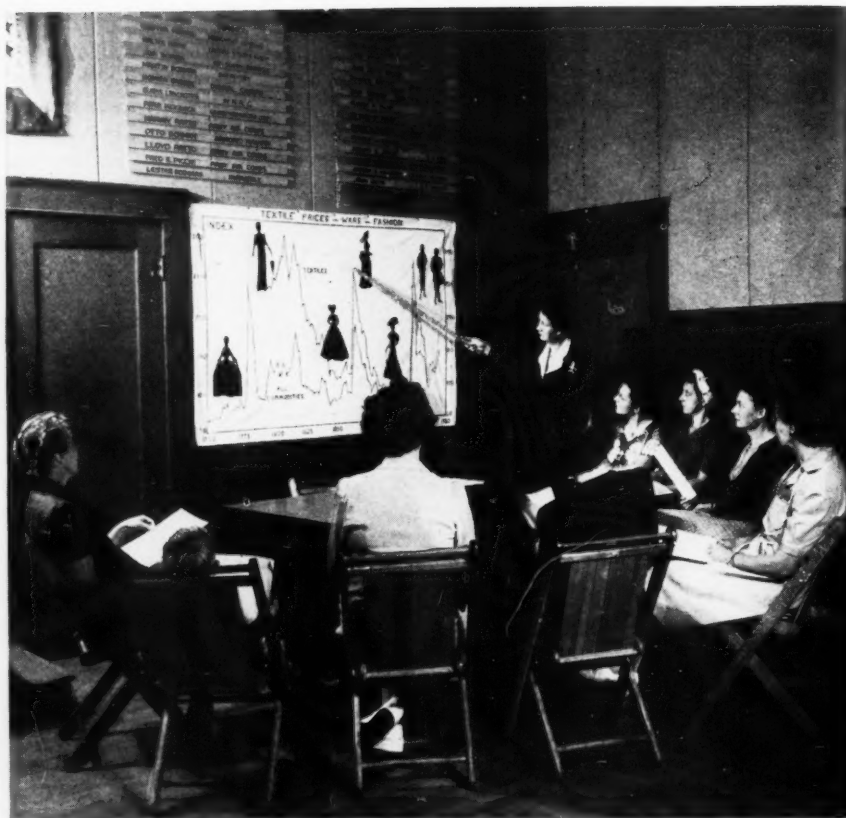
• Some 3 million rural women recently went to school by proxy to study up-to-date ways to get the most out of their family clothing budget. They didn't go in person but were represented by 52 State extension clothing specialists from 42 States and Puerto Rico. Here's how:

So much new has happened in the clothing world during the war and since, that bewildered housewives often feel the need to go back to school again and polish up on the latest clothing facts and findings.

Since the great majority of rural homemakers have neither the time nor money to hie themselves off to clothing school, wouldn't the next best thing be for some of their neighbors to take an up-to-the-minute clothing course for them—and then bring back the latest word.

That's the reasoning behind the national clothing refresher course which the Extension Service held February 17 through March 1. Fifty-two State extension clothing specialists gathered in Washington for the sessions. Armed with pencils, notepaper and indefatigable curiosity, this small group was on deck to be eyes and ears for the rural families they serve.

Thinking of the 3 million rural women reached by the Extension clothing program last year, the class felt obligated to cram all the learning they could into a brief session. So they listened hard while authorities from the various government departments and from industry told of recent findings in textile research. They visited the clothing laboratories of the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics at Beltsville, Md., picking up much useful information about functional work dresses, new synthetic fabrics, the effectiveness of various detergents, mildew-preventive treatments, and such. They viewed the testing equipment at the National Bureau of Standards and saw the workings of the National Institute of Cleaning and Dyeing. They ended the course with a tour of several large textile



Rural women want their money's worth from the family clothing budget. These home demonstration club leaders are studying changing trends in clothing styles and prices.

mills and a meeting with National Consumer Retailer Council Representatives.

When the meeting was over, the State clothing specialists went back home to carry the news to rural homemakers in their States. Following are some of the things which the refresher-course group heard during the 2-week session—facts which will help rural families find the right answers to their clothing problems.

Belief that clothing prices will come down before the end of the year was expressed by a prognosticator from the trade, for example. He based his forecast on the belief that in view of limited clothing budgets of many families, too large a proportion of the clothing has been in the high-price field.

An expert from the tanning industry prophesied that the demand for cheaper shoes would begin to show results as the supply of shoes begins to outstrip demand.

He also forecast more shoes with toes and heels.

On the authority of the Quartermaster Corps, housewives can reasonably look for shrink-resistant wool socks appearing on the market this year—and that by 1948 a great variety of woolen items which can safely be dumped into the family washing machine will be available to the consumers.

Shrinkage was a big Army headache during the war. In many instances, GI wool sweaters and socks or even shirts had to be discarded after a single severe washing under field conditions.

Investigation of methods to make woolens shrink-resistant was stepped up to meet the problem. As a result, a number of promising new treatments have been developed. Laboratory tests of a chlorination process treatment developed by the Army, for example, show that this finish will reduce the felting shrinkage of Army

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shirting material to less than one percent in the length or breadth of the fabric, without changing the shade or damaging the fibers in any way.

Investigations also revealed that several commercially developed resin processes for preventing shrinkage could be used successfully for Army shirtings. One such finish reduced the shrinkage of an Army shirt to 3.2 percent for the back length after 25 washings, as compared to a 15.9 percent shrinkage for an untreated shirt.

Another military clothing problem which is of real concern to homemakers is that of "flameproofing" fabrics. All materials, except those of the asbestos type, will burn when held continuously in a flame. This is true even of textiles which have been "flameproofed."

But with the object of holding skin burns to a minimum, the Army set up rigid requirements for fire-resistant finishes. If a "flameproof" fabric were induced to blaze by a flame from an outside source, the induced flame must go out within 2 seconds after the outside flame was removed. Also, the area attacked by the flame must be as small as possible. Finally, the tendency to glow must be held to a minimum, since the temperature of glowing cotton is about 500° C. and a temperature of less than 200° will sear the skin.

A "flameproof" finish suitable for the Army would also need to stand up under rough treatment without seriously impairing the wearing quality of the garment or rendering the clothing uncomfortable.

To find the answer to the many problems involved in flameproofing, the Quartermaster Corps established a research project at Columbia University under the direction of the National Research Council. The findings from this project indicated that considerable progress has been made over prewar flame-resistant finishes.

A style show demonstrating functional work dresses and aprons developed at the BHNHE textile laboratories was viewed by the refresher-course group. Among the features of the new models are conveniently placed hand-height pockets, the sides of which are stitched in place along with the skirt gores to make them more resistant to rips and tears. Patterns for these dresses are being released by a commercial pattern company.

News of a cotton gauze bandage that is partly self-fitting was reported by the Agricultural Research Administration.

This new bandage was developed at the Southern Regional Research Laboratory by a modified mercerization process which shrinks ordinary cotton gauze into a semi-elastic fabric. Medical men in civilian and military hospitals, where 35,000 of the bandages have been tried out, consider them superior to regular gauze.

Widespread interest of manufacturers in a new rot-resistant finish for cotton textiles developed at the Southern Regional Research Laboratory was also reported. The new process, which partially acetylates the cotton, increases the heat resistance of the treated yarn or fabric besides improving its rot-resistant qualities.

If the rural homemaker or her daughter wants to buy a serviceable mouton coat at the summer fur sales, then she will profitably give heed to the directions for selecting a good mouton, as outlined by a U. S. Department of Agriculture expert:

Blow into the coat and notice whether it opens up readily, indicating that the

fibers are flexible. Feel the coat. It should feel smooth, silky and fairly dense. Examine the fibers to see if they are straight for at least half their length. Check to see that there are no cracks in the skins and whether the fibers lie smoothly throughout the coat. Skins which have areas where fibers extend in different directions are not desirable. Check the back and front of the coat carefully for quality, as the best pelts usually go into the sleeves. Finally, look at the lining fabric and the workmanship.

All this plus notebooks full of other up-to-date facts on clothing were carried back to the crossroads by the 52 clothing specialists who attended the clothing refresher course. And the zeal with which the specialists attending the course asked questions and took notes on behalf of the rural women in their home States was eloquent testimony of the determination of rural families to get their money's worth from their clothing budget.



Getting a good fit is the number-one requirement for wise shoe purchase. To help them make a better shoe choice, these 4-H girls compare the shape of foot and shoe.

Record of relief



The United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration closes up the bulk of its operations this month. Here's an account of the money that was spent and a record of some of the uses to which the money was put.

● This month will witness the wind-up of the bulk of the activities of the most gigantic relief and rehabilitation program ever undertaken in the history of man. For this month the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration closes up shop in all its far-flung outposts scattered over the war desolated areas of the world. All of them, that is, except China where, because of a late start the work will not be completed until the end of 1947.

Farmers and consumers all had a stake in this program. From the farms of this country millions of tons of food were shipped to feed the starving millions of the war-wrecked world. Two billion, seven hundred million was paid by the taxpayers of this country for all of UNRRA's services. Hundreds of thousands of

Americans contributed in clothes, food packages, and cash to relief organizations that were aided by UNRRA in distributing their gifts. Consumers tightened their belts in order that relief food might go where it was so drastically needed.

In addition to being the most vast relief project ever embarked upon, UNRRA represented the first attempt at international cooperation in a practical peace time job. In this organization the countries of the United Nations pooled their resources and together procured and distributed essential commodities of relief.

It was in November 1943 that UNRRA came into being. No one at the time knew what time the war would end. All nations realized that when the hour of victory came the work of building the peace had to begin. They knew it would

have to be built out of ruin and chaos.

Great areas were then overrun by the enemy. Tens of thousands of square miles were being fought over. Wherever the war was striking there were ruined farms, blasted factories and railways, and millions of homeless men, women and children wandering the country side and crowding already overcrowded cities. On farms crops were not put in, work stock was driven off or killed for food. Farm machinery wrecked or carried away. There were no seeds or fertilizers. The people of whole nations were starving. These were the conditions in late 1943 and they were becoming progressively worse as the war continued.

The first task in the building of peace had to be the practical one of immediate relief for the people who were unable to obtain food, clothing and shelter, and to begin as soon as possible getting them into a position where they could produce their own necessities of life.

In November 1943, the representatives of 44 governments signed the agreement establishing the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. Four more governments were admitted in 1946, bringing the total to 48 cooperating countries.

The set-up of the organization was to begin its work at once in any area liberated from enemy control. Relief, which came first was defined as being on-the-spot supplying food to keep the peoples alive, enough clothing and shelter to ward off disease and death, and medical supplies to make them well. The second part of the program of rehabilitation involved getting to the helpless nations, implements, seeds, railway repairs and equipment and other items necessary for them to rebuild their shattered economies to the point where they could help themselves.

In order to carry this out, a huge staff of specialists was brought together from almost all of the 48 countries represented. At the top in 1946 these employees totaled 12,895. Each was trained in the field in which he was to operate. There were transportation specialists, medical doctors experienced in public health procedures,

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welfare workers to handle and rehabilitate the displaced millions. There were workers trained to organize the revival of agriculture and to make the best use of seeds and fertilizer, farm stock and implements that were shipped in.

All of these employees were pledged to do their duty by the international organization and carry out their work on a basis of need without discrimination toward any nationality, creed or political belief.

The organization was financed by the 48 governments. Their contributions made possible UNRRA's vast program of operations totaling \$2,938,213,000. The expenditures were broken down into administrative funds and operating funds. All 48 nations contributed to the administrative fund. The operating fund, which was much larger, financed supplies and services. These costs were borne by those member countries whose home territories were not invaded. Thirty-two of the member governments fell into this category. It was recommended that funds be contributed by each nation equal to one percent of its net national income for the year ending June 30, 1943.

A second contribution of equal amounts was made later and it was further agreed that at least one-tenth of the contribution should be made in freely exchangeable currency and that the remaining nine-tenths be contributed in supplies and services.

Let's consider UNRRA's record as it closes its books on most of its operations. The figures tell an amazing story.

Food.....	\$1,241,466,000
Clothing, textiles, and footwear.....	424,982,000
Medical and sanitation supplies.....	125,406,000
Agricultural rehabilitation	342,446,000
Industrial rehabilitation..	683,781,000
Unclassified nonmilitary material obtained from the military.....	117,104,000
Other material.....	3,028,000

The bread grain alone shipped to Europe by UNRRA would make almost 12 billion loaves of bread of 1 pound each. This is more than 1 loaf of bread daily for every family in the United States for 1 year. What this meant to the people who received the grain can't be measured in cold figures. The areas into which this food went are still largely underfed, millions of them to the point of near

starvation. Millions who received this bread had literally no other source of supply. Without this food there would have been famine and death for millions.

Saving these millions from acute starvation not only spared their lives but gave them more hope for living in a democratic world. And too it played a basic part in the prevention of the wholesale spread of epidemic diseases. Nutritional diseases such as pellagra, scurvy and famine edema which have ravaged countries of central Europe in the previous times of acute food shortages, were not given an opportunity to fully strike their blows.

The feeding problems took many forms. In the European countries receiving UNRRA aid, close to 10 million children were given supplementary food through school lunch and other child feeding programs. UNRRA supplied the grain, egg powder, dried milk, and fruit juices, which were extensively used to augment food supplies made available to these programs by the cooperating governments.

Clothing and raw materials for clothing were rushed for immediate relief. Enough raw cotton from the United States to make 1½ billion yards of cotton goods in the textile mills in Europe was shipped. This material is being used to produce house dresses, work clothes, desperately needed hospital sheets, diapers and other garments for people who emerged from the war with nothing but the rags on their backs. Some of the cotton is woven into cloth and a large portion is used for quilted and padded garments, which are a basic Oriental article of clothing.

In addition to the textiles and raw material purchased by UNRRA, volunteer contributions of clothing and footwear collected in the United States from 3 drives added to the basic supplies. Over 1,750,000 pairs of men's shoes were given, 3,400,000 pairs of women's shoes, and 3,500,000 pairs of infants and children's shoes. Garments, too were contributed, 5,000,000 garments for men, 8,500,000 for women, and 5¼ million for children were added to the purchased relief supplies. Blankets and towels for a million families were also donated and distributed by UNRRA.

Although the approximate 125 million dollars which was expended by UNRRA on health does not loom very large in the budget of billions, its work was significant. The health service was concerned



mainly with preventive medicine, the arresting and control of epidemics usually bred by the devastation of war. At its peak of operation as many as 800 doctors and nurses were working in Europe. These did not include doctors and nurses belonging to voluntary societies that co-operated with UNRRA.

The largest portion of the money was spent for medical and sanitation supplies. By June 30, 1946, 105,000 tons of serum and vaccine, chemicals and drugs, hospital equipment and laboratory supplies had been dispatched with an equal amount to go forward.

Medical supplies included 20,000 different items—complete X-ray equipment, dental laboratory paraphernalia, drugs, beds, blankets—in short everything from aspirin to zinc plate. In one lot to Poland we sent complete equipment for twenty-four 1,000-bed hospital units. The bill-of-lading for each hospital unit is about 1½ inches thick. Where refrigeration was essential, medical supplies went by air.

The money was spent in a race against anticipated epidemics. Typhus fever, the camp follower of wars, constituted one of the major threats.

The results can be measured only in comparative terms. In 1919 following the last world war in the month of May there were 33,929 cases of typhus reported in Poland. For 1945 with a comparable peak being reached also in May there were only 2,987 cases or less than one-eleventh as many as followed the last war. In the early part of 1946 the corresponding maximum figures, both of them in January, were 34,530 for 1920 and 1,235 for 1946.

Another function of UNRRA carried on outside of procurement of supplies was the assistance it gave to the millions of displaced persons. These millions of homeless included those who were driven from their native land by the armies, others were shipped out to do slave labor. These people all require help to get back over the boundaries to their home countries. And there are still other hundreds of thousands who, for one reason or another, found themselves far away from their homes although still in their own countries. These people too must be cared for and returned to their towns and villages.

This work began in May 1944 when the organization took over the responsibility of housing in the Middle East. It housed

about 40,000 Yugoslavians and Greeks. The work continued until the end of February. UNRRA had aided in the repatriation of 7,049,763 persons to more than a dozen countries—practically all who can be repatriated.

At the time of closing their affairs there are more than 700,000 dispossessed persons in camps, most of whom cannot return home because of political or national differences. New homes in new countries must be found for them by the United Nations. Although these camps were



supplied by the army they have been administered by UNRRA; their health needs; recreation activities; schooling, both adults and children; the teaching of trades, have been part of UNRRA's duties. They also did extensive work in finding lost children and returning them to their parents.

Other special welfare services which UNRRA supplied was helping the sick and disabled, widows and children, pregnant women, nursing mothers, and aged persons. UNRRA workers aided in distribution of food and milk, set up emergency housing projects and child nurseries.

They supplied equipment for milk kitchens, day nurseries and children's hospitals. Much of this work will now continue under the auspices of the United Nations.

The work of rehabilitation which UNRRA is now closing down operated on a broad scale in working toward its aim of getting necessary implements and supplies to be used for production.

For agricultural rehabilitation, communities were furnished seed, fertilizer, insecticides, livestock and basic farm tools and machinery. They also were given the benefit of the advice of agricultural specialists on how to make the best use of the supplies. UNRRA supplied 300,000 tons of seeds. A significant portion of these were vegetables, packaged in family-size packets and widely distributed to farm families. The packets contained simple directions in the languages of the recipient countries for planting. All directions were suitable for the local growing conditions.

The organization sent enough livestock and farm machinery to cultivate 10 million acres of land that would otherwise be idle. A million and a half tons of fertilizer have been shipped to UNRRA receiving countries—enough fertilizer to produce 5 million additional tons of food.

In order to put small farmers back on their feet and enable them to supply their hungry communities with milk, many cows were delivered. The general rule was that the cow be with calf when it arrived at its destination.

Draft animals supplied by UNRRA played an important part in rebuilding the farms of the ravaged areas. The animals came from many countries. Among those delivered by UNRRA during the last year were 10,108 horses, a gift from the Danish Government. These horses had been bred in Denmark by the Germans for their own use. In addition to the gift, UNRRA purchased an additional 30,000 Danish horses for shipment to Poland and Czechoslovakia where men and women were pulling plows, 50,000 horses were from American farms and ranches, 15,000 from Canada, and 500 from North Ireland.

The farm stock added thousands of tons of food supply of the communities into which it was sent. The grateful reception by the impoverished farmers also went a long way toward building permanent good will toward the democratic nations.

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Meeting the mildew menace

• Mildew, stay 'way from my door.

This humid weather hoodoo annually puts the jinx on thousands of dollars' worth of textiles, leather goods, paint, wood and such in American homes.

That's the reason behind the research project now going forward at the textile laboratories of the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics in Beltsville, Md., to develop simple, effective treatments to protect fabrics from mildew.

Mildew is caused by molds, the laboratory workers will tell you. These molds grow on anything from which they can get enough food. They eat cellulose products such as cotton, linen, wood and paper. Protein is their meat too—silk, leather and wool also being on their bill-of-fare.

Mildew-causing molds are always present in the air—and to a greater degree in the soil. But they need moisture and certain temperature conditions in order to grow.

To date the Bureau has treated samples of cotton material with over 250 chemical compounds in the search for a simple, effective finish for preventing mildew.

In order to test the effectiveness of the various treatments, treated and untreated samples of fabric are subjected to conditions favorable to a speedy growth of mildew. The breaking strength of the fabric samples in each case is measured after they have undergone the tough test exposure to mildew.

If a sample of treated fabric is still strong it passes the test with flying colors and the particular treatment is considered effective. An untreated sample of the same fabric rots away.

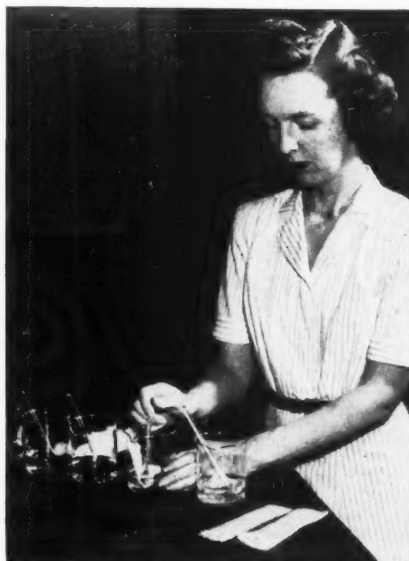
The various treated and untreated fabric samples are all inoculated, in the same way, with the mildew-causing organisms and then placed in bottles in an incubation room where the temperature is kept constant.

When the experiments were first started, the test fabric samples were inoculated with one mildew-causing organism only—*Claetomium globosum*. However, experience revealed that this test wasn't tough enough, since some treated samples that passed it were unable to resist more avid attacks by different varieties of mildew-causing organisms.

Development of reliable and speedy tests for mildew-preventive treatments was a matter of paramount importance during the war, when millions of dollars' worth of vital military equipment had to be exposed to the moisture and heat of the tropics. Along with other government and private agencies, the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics worked on this testing problem. As a result of these studies, BHNHE now exposes sample fabrics to the many organisms present in the soil in order to test resistance to mildew. This is done by inoculating the fabric samples in a soil suspension bath for half an hour.

Investigations to date have uncovered a number of effective mildew-preventive treatments. Several finishes have already been tested and found practical for use on shower curtains, draperies, awnings and furniture coverings exposed to moisture.

Some of these mildew preventives can be easily applied by the housewife in her own home. And one treatment developed in the BHNHE laboratories is being marketed by a big chemical company. None of the treatments is recommended for use on clothing, however, since tests have not been made to determine whether the treated fabrics would be irritating to the skin if worn for a long time.



To test mildew-preventive treatments, a lab assistant first treats fabric samples.

One simple home method for making a cotton shower curtain mildew-resistant developed in the BHNHE laboratory uses soap and cadmium chloride. First dip the cloth in hot soap suds made of soft water and good neutral soap. Soak for a few minutes to make sure that the goods are wet through. Then remove the cloth and, without rinsing, put it immediately into a hot solution of cadmium chloride using 1½ ounces of cadmium chloride to a gallon of water. Stir and turn the fabric for about 15 minutes in this bath. Then wring out the fabric and hang to dry. Be sure to use a twine clothes line, as a wire line will stain treated fabrics. Also be sure to have plenty of soap in the cloth for it is the combination of the soap with the cadmium chloride that keeps the mildew-killing mineral from quickly sifting out of the fabric and leaving it unprotected.

Copper sulphate can also be used in similar proportions with soap to make cloth mildew-resistant. This has the advantage of being more generally available for purchase by homemakers and is somewhat cheaper. However, copper sulphate makes the fabric blue, which may be a disadvantage if blue doesn't fit into your color scheme.

Both treatments withstand two or three washings.

Since both cadmium chloride and copper sulphate are poisonous, be careful in using them.



After inoculation with mildew-causing mold, samples are incubated in bottles.

New Angle on Canning for School Lunch

How Ohio county institutions and Parent-Teachers groups cooperate to can food for the local schools. Why not try it in your county this summer?

A brand new idea on canning for school lunch comes from the Ohio Health Department Nutritionist, Miss Dorothy Throssel. Like so many good ideas it's so simple and obvious that once it's been stated you can't see why someone didn't think of it long ago. Briefly, the idea is to do canning for school lunches in county institutions on a cooperative basis. The institution provides the equipment, the cans and the food from its farm. The Parent-Teacher groups do the canning. They divide the food on a fifty-fifty basis—half for the institution and half for school lunches.

The first place to use this new idea was the Summit County Home where canning equipment left over from WPA days was standing idle. Practical value of the plan was so well demonstrated here that when the nearby county of Ashtabula wanted to do the same thing, but found that the County Home had no equipment, the county commissioners at once appropriated the \$1,250 needed for it.

This is working out to everyone's satisfaction. The County does not have to let any of its farm produce go to waste for lack of canning facilities and labor, and the schools get their produce free—or almost free. They pay the professional supervisor in charge of the work 10 or 15 cents per number 10 can, depending on the product processed. Out of this the supervisor pays for the telephone and incidental expenses. She also works out arrangements with the school groups to send canning workers. All 29 schools in the county are represented on a county committee and are given equal opportunity to take part in the program.

Foods canned are boxed and labeled for each school. The county home has adequate temporary storage for them.

Counties which do not have the advantage of institutional space and equipment, still might work out cooperative plans for community canning. Improved school diet and cash saving will be the reward.

Photographs on these pages give you a quick look at Ashtabula County's canning.



Planning Committee includes county representatives of Board of Commissioners, Health Office, Schools; State representatives of Department of Health, and of Production and Marketing Administration, USDA; Parent-Teacher groups and Supt. of County Home.



Residents of County Home gather tomatoes to be canned for schools and for selves.



County farm-produced corn and tomatoes are unloaded from trucks at the cannery.

ch



Here PTA women begin their part of this fifty-fifty program. Washing is first.



Scalding preparatory to peeling comes next. Workers are supervised by an expert.



Peeled tomatoes are then packed by PTA workers in No. 10 cans at filling table.



After tomatoes are preheated in exhaust box, cans are inspected for proper head space to assure a full pack before sealing.



Sealed cans are processed in the retort used as a wash bath. PTA worker records time for processing on the retort lid.



Matron of County Home inventories canned food preparatory to dividing it with the schools which did the work of canning it.



Here we see the "end product" of all the work depicted on these pages: Healthy school children being served a wholesome lunch.

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ners' guide

June 1947

Rats teach nutrition lesson...

● Food makes the difference, boys and girls.

And how it makes a difference is graphically told by a score or more of white rats, some well fed—some poorly fed as people are. These rats tell their story in an up-to-date series of 10 nutrition teaching charts recently issued by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics.

Rats are used extensively for nutrition studies because they will eat the same foods as humans and, by their growing 30 times as fast as humans, they more quickly show the effects of good and bad diets. Bad effects that result from a shortage of any of the 8 better known food nutrients needed for growth—protein, iron, calcium and vitamins A, C, D, riboflavin, and thiamine—are strikingly revealed by pictures of laboratory rats.

The charts also picture a number of foods that are good sources of each particular nutrient—foods widely available in this country and commonly used.

The first chart points out the fact that growth is a measure of good nutrition. It shows well-fed rats that weigh 22 grams at 2 weeks, 47 grams at 4 weeks, and 193 grams when adult at 12 weeks.

Importance of the right food is told in other charts. One chart pictures a jittery-looking rat that lost the ability to coordinate its muscles after subsisting on a diet that contained practically no thiamine. A second picture shows the same rat a day later after it had dined heartily on food rich in thiamine. He was calm and controlled after getting the thiamine (vitamin B₁) that is needed by body cells to use carbohydrates.

On another chart a rat that did not have enough iron had pale ears and tail. The rat that had plenty of iron had sleek fur and was more red-blooded and a bigger animal than the small, iron-deficient rat.

The rat with no vitamin A in its diet had an infected eye, rough fur and a sick appearance, for vitamin A is needed for growth, healthy eyes, skin, and other tissues. The rat that had plenty of vitamin A had bright eyes, sleek fur, and appeared alert and vigorous.

Lack of riboflavin that promotes health by helping body cells use oxygen took its

toll in a rat that had no riboflavin in its first 28 weeks. He became sick, lost hair, especially about the head, and weighed only 63 grams. Six weeks later, after being fed on a diet rich in riboflavin, the same rat had recovered its fine fur and weighed 169 grams.

Because rats are not sensitive to vitamin C, guinea pigs were used to illustrate the fact that ascorbic acid (vitamin C) helps to build healthy gums, teeth, and bones. The guinea pig that had no ascorbic acid developed scurvy; the one that had plenty was healthy and alert, its fur sleek and fine.

The rat that had no vitamin D, needed for well-formed bones and teeth and to prevent rickets, had a poorly shaped body and bowlegs. The one that had plenty of vitamin D grew to normal size and its bones were strong and straight.

FOOD makes the difference in these twin rats

This rat ate only meat, potato, bread, and butter. He has poor fur and weighs only 89 grams.

Bones show diet was poor—lacking calcium and vitamins.

This rat ate plenty of milk and vegetables, besides the meat, potato, bread, and butter. He weighs 194 grams.

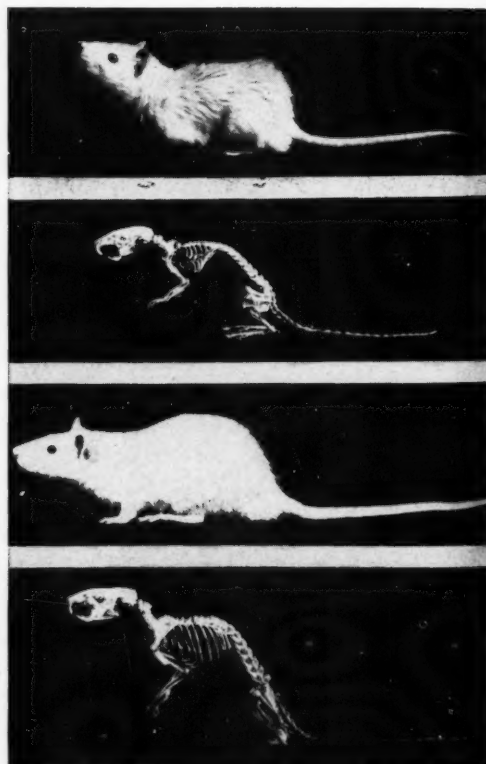
Skeleton shows diet was good. Bones are strong and well-formed.

The rat that did not have enough calcium had a short, stubby body, due to poorly formed bones. The rat that had plenty of calcium reached full size and its bones were well-formed. Calcium builds bones, and teeth and is needed by all body tissues.

Rats fed on varied diets of protein, the builder of blood, muscle and growth, are also shown in the charts.

Schools, nutrition committees, adult nutrition and cooking classes, other groups, and libraries find these charts of instructive value.

The 10 charts, sold in sets only for \$0.75, are printed in yellow and black on heavy white paper, 19 by 24 inches. They may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.



BUREAU OF HUMAN NUTRITION AND HOME ECONOMICS, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Close up on the News . . .

Sugar More Plentiful But . . .

The fact that sugar has appeared to be relatively abundant in stores in many sections of the United States does not mean that this commodity is now plentiful. Here's the story behind the apparent "abundance."

During the months of April and May the Cuban raw sugar mills are producing at close to maximum capacity. (They usually finish their yearly "outrun" about June 1.) These two big operating months mean that raw sugar is being produced in very large quantities. Fortunately, the Cuban crop this year is good—and the quantities are even larger than average.

This April-May peak in raw sugar manufacture leaves the U. S. Government (which has the Cuban 1947 crop under contract) with three alternatives. The Government must, (1) move raw sugar from Cuba in very large quantities, for refining in the United States, (2) refuse to move sugar and thus cause the closing of mills and the loss of production, or (3) store raw sugar in Cuba in sacks in the open—unprotected from the rain.

Of the three alternatives—the only logical one is to bring the large quantities of sugar into the country during April and May. But—much of this sugar brought in during these 2 months must be for consumption in later months of the year—because no more sugar will be made from Cuban cane after, approximately June 1 to 5.

The sugar brought from Cuba has been moving through the refineries and the wholesalers—to the stores where it can now be readily bought. Some people think it is rather convenient to be able to cash ration stamps, once again, any time they wish to.

For the year 1947 as a whole—there is no more sugar "in sight" for United States usage than there was when the International Emergency Food Council recommended an allocation of 6,800,000 tons for United States usage during the year. This recommended allocation was accepted by the Department of Agriculture, acting on behalf of the United States.

School Kids Get Orange Juice

Many kids who seldom before got closer to an orange than a long wistful look at a huckster's cart had their daily glass of orange juice at school this year. This was thanks to extensive purchases of concentrated orange juice by the Production and Marketing Administration for direct distribution through the school lunch program.

PMA bought concentrated canned juice instead of fresh oranges because the concentrate costs less to ship, keeps well, and is easy for school lunch workers to serve.

Altogether, PMA purchased about 755,300 gallons of canned concentrated orange juice. When reconstituted with water to the strength of natural fruit juice, this made 5 million gallons of refreshing fruit drink—enough to permit the kids to quaff 113 million glasses of orange juice.

One of the requirements of the National School Lunch Act is that school lunches must meet prescribed nutritional standards, based on nutritional research. The object is to give every child who is fed under the school lunch program a nutritionally complete meal—or at least essential foods that would otherwise be lacking in his diet.

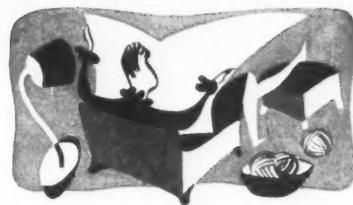
Oranges are a good source of Vitamin C, which is one of the nutrients needed for the proper development of children's muscles, bones and teeth. Foods that contain Vitamin C should be eaten daily, as this vitamin cannot be stored effectively in the body.

What Chance for the Family-Sized Farm?

Development of small farm machinery is one of the brighter spots in the outlook for family-sized farms, as seen by Samuel Liss in the spring issue of the *Land Policy Review*.

Technological advances in farm equipment, sized and priced for smaller farms, hold promise of improving the chances of the family farm to compete more successfully with larger commercially operated farms, in the opinion of the writer.

While emphasizing the importance of prosperous family-sized farms to a sound agricultural economy and to the general



welfare of America, the article points out that many family farms are too small for economic operation. It says that we are entering into the postwar period with about 2 million low-income producing farms, a large number of which do not have sufficient margin of profit for successfully operating under unfavorable conditions.

Spud Research Recommended

Ways to make fuller use of the giant potato crops that seem to be a regular thing these days were considered at a recent meeting of the Potato Advisory Committee which was appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with provisions of the Marketing and Research Act of 1946.

A recommendation of interest to consumers called for intensive research in the field of marketing aimed at quality improvement, including handling methods, cleaning, grading, and reconditioning.

Among other recommendations, the Advisory Committee suggested a study of demand and consumer preferences. They would like to know what's the tie-up, if any, between income, type of family, season, and place of residence to potato consumption.

Intensive research on developing and expanding uses for potatoes other than as human food in fresh form was also recommended. Work to develop new and cheaper dehydrating processes was one suggestion. Other research suggestions included: additional ways of preserving whole, ground or sliced potatoes; use of potatoes for feed grade glucose, denaturing of diversion potatoes for use as feed or as a component of ensilage or for technological operations.

Research on the production of potato flour and cooperative projects with potato chippers pertaining to storage, oil rancidity, and so on was further recommended.

Also recommended for study were marketing problems, such as marketing costs, government programs and foreign trade, in addition to production research.

GUIDE POSTS

JUN 20 1947

DETROIT

**Help Bring in the Groceries**

Hey there, city folks and townspeople. Your country cousins will be needing a helping hand again this year with their emergency farm chores.

It's this way. Farm labor is more plentiful than it was in the extreme shortage period of 1945. The labor supply is now at about the 1943 level. But even then, if you'll remember, farm families were having a hard time getting their big job done.

This year's farm job is big too—so big that farmers in many parts of the country will have a hard time doing it all without some emergency help. For American farmers have again been asked to produce food at record levels. Not only is total American food consumption up considerably above prewar but also the world food shortage has faced America with the responsibility of supplying as much food as possible to help combat hunger.

So if you're husky and hankering to do a good deed that will also be good for you and help bring in the groceries, why not register with the Extension Service in your community to do emergency farm work this summer?

Lots of Kraut

Sauerkraut will be stepping out in the limelight this summer as never before, if plans of the cabbage growers and the sauerkraut trade come to pass.

The big idea is that sauerkraut has too much personality in its own right to be always teamed up with spare ribs. Okay for la kraut to go steady with spareribs but not to be wedded to that set-up.

Why shouldn't sauerkraut travel around a bit with weiners, too? After all there

was a time when a serving of kraut went along automatically with an order of hot dogs just like the mustard, say the old-timers. Why not now? Particularly why not now, when there's an abundant supply of kraut on hand—and prices are very favorable for buyers, especially for buyers who shop around to get the bargains.

Housewives are therefore being reminded that kraut is cheap, tasty and easy to serve as a vegetable with whatever meat accompaniment—or as part of a vegetable platter. Or it can be served chilled as a salad. Chilled kraut juice, which is also plentiful and cheap, makes a good breakfast beverage or an appetizer. Both sauerkraut and kraut juice are good sources of Vitamin C.

Spuds in Your Bread

Something new in this world—bread made with a touch of potato flour?

On the contrary, a recently initiated program to encourage bakers to use potato flour in their bread harks back to those crusty brown loaves that grandmother used to make.

Grandma often used potato water or a little mashed potato in her bread baking. She did this in order that the loaves would have an extra special flavor and stay fresh longer.

So, now that there's an abundant supply of potatoes on hand and the spud growers are looking for new outlets, the growers are getting together with the bakers to revive the use of potatoes in bread. Bakers are using potato flour rather than mashed potatoes or potato water because the flour is easier to handle and does not spoil.

Dressed Up Dates

All scrubbed up like a date—and I mean the kind of date that grows on a tree!

Yes, dates have to undergo a cleaning process before they are ready to be marketed. And something new and better in the date cleaning line has been discovered by scientists of the Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry working in cooperation with California date growers.

The old-fashioned way of cleaning dates was to roll the unwashed dates down an incline covered with Turkish toweling.

Under the new method, the dates pass beneath a spray of clean warm water and are bombarded with a blast of warm air. The new method of cleaning dates is less costly, more effective and more sanitary than the traditional method, say the experts.

Exposure of the cleaned dates to the rays from an infrared lamp for a short time is also recommended as the final step in the new process of dressing up the dates for market. That's because this light treatment temporarily softens the natural waxy coating on the surface of the dates and gives them a glossy appearance that appeals to consumers.

Frail as Paper?

Frail as paper isn't the apt phrase it was once upon a time.

You see, the idea that all paper and paperboard will tear easily, will go to pieces when wet and burn "like paper" is out-of-date, behind the times, wrong.

In fact, paper products are playing a new stout fellow role around the house these days, thanks to treatments to make them water resistant, fire resistant, flexible, and what not.

Paper bathmats are among the rather new things on this earth, for instance. Then, of course, there are paper draperies. But did you know there were paper mail-boxes? And rugs woven from paper?

For the baby, there are paper bibs. For the house guest, a soap leaflet may take the place of an individual bar of soap. And for the cook, a paper sink strainer may help make life in the kitchen easier.

These and many other new paper goods and gadgets for the house are listed in an article in the March issue of Domestic Commerce.

LISTEN TO CONSUMER TIME

Every Saturday—Coast to Coast
over N. B. C. 12:15 p. m. EST
11:15 a. m. CST
10:15 a. m. MST
9:15 a. m. PST

Dramatizations, interviews, questions and answers on consumer problems. Tune in.
Brought to you by the

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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CULTURE

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